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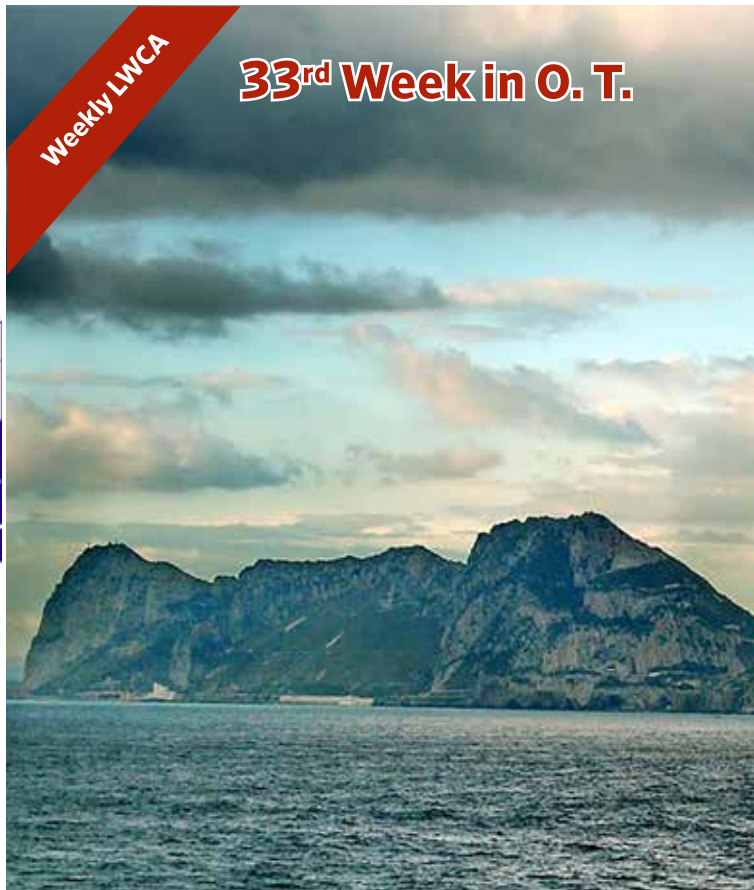
Living with Christ

GROWING UP DAILY WITH THE GOOD NEWS

Weekly LWCA

33rd Week in O. T.

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Liturgical texts:

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Editorial

November 2022



Rev. Fr. François Nzanzu, a.a. Nairobi-Kenya

The Church in Heaven and on Earth United

Every year on November 1st, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of All Saints. In this solemn celebration, the whole church, both in heaven and on the earth, is united. All of us are called to share in the holiness of God and to live holy lives on earth.

In the same month, the Church celebrates two other major Solemnities: the Solemnity of All Souls and Solemnity of Christ the King which marks the end of the liturgical year whereby the cycle of the Church's liturgical celebrations culminates in the beginning of the new liturgical year. The Solemnity of Christ the King is celebrated on the final Sunday of Ordinary Time. It is also the final Sunday of the liturgical year, the last Sunday before the First Sunday of Advent. This year, the Solemnity of Christ the King will be celebrated on November 20th. Sunday, November 27th will be the first Sunday of Advent and the beginning of the Liturgical Year A.



The Pope's Prayer Intention

For children who suffer: We pray for children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans, and victims of war; may they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection.

Other papal intentions and videos can be found on: <http://apostleshipofprayer.org/>

The Sacrament Of Penance

The sacrament of penance is also called sacrament of reconciliation. It was instituted by Jesus Christ. After his resurrection, he appeared to his disciples and gave them the power to remit sins as written in John 20, 23: «If you forgive anyone's sins, they will be forgiven. But if you don't forgive their sins, they will not be forgiven».

The sacrament of penance is one of the two sacraments of healing. Sin is a spiritual illness. Sin breaks two fundamental relationships: the relationship between God and the sinner; the relationship between the Church and the sinner. After confession, many people experience inner peace because they can definitely feel the relationship between them and God and they can participate fully in the Eucharist. Therefore, the sacrament of penance heals the penitent bringing them from darkness to Light.

The minister of the sacrament of reconciliation is the priest or the bishop. A deacon or any other minister

cannot hear confessions because they are not ordained to the priesthood. It is important to say that the penitent does not confess his sins to the priest, but to God represented by the priest. He is an instrument that God uses to convey his mercy to humankind. God is full of mercy and compassion for his children. He is ready to forgive them whenever they ask for forgiveness.

At the end of the sacrament of confession, the minister (*priest or bishop*) proposes a penance to the penitent. Penance is not punishment meant to humiliate the penitent. It is rather a prayer that the penitent recites to thank the Lord for his mercy and to ask for his grace. It can also be a work of mercy that the penitent is asked to perform during a certain period of time. The minister must be welcoming. His role is not to embarrass but to give hope by showing God's love to the penitent.

The sacrament of Penance is not to be confused with spiritual direction. A spiritual director helps a person or a couple or a family to grow in their human, Christian or religious life. But the sacrament of Penance has to do with the confession of sins. Nevertheless, spiritual direction can lead to confession and confession may lead

to spiritual direction. The sacrament requires human presence. One cannot confess their sins on phone or through social media.

According to the canon Law (can. 989), after having reached the age of discretion, each member of the faithful is obliged to confess faithfully their grave sins at least once a year. The matter of the sacrament of penance is contrition, confession, desire to amend life, and making of reparation by doing what the minister gives as penance. The form is made up of the following words pronounced by the minister: "...N, I absolve you of your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit".

In a general way, the sacrament of penance takes place in the confessional, a kind of box where the priest hears the confessions of the penitent. It can be administered elsewhere provided the place is fitting.

Rev. Fr. Jérôme K. M. Kombi,
Rome-Italy

Image & Verse of the Week

“The one who is unwilling
to work shall not eat.” ”

2 Thessalonians 3:10





Sunday November 13

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Malachi 4:1-2a / Psalm (97) 98:5-6.7-9ab.9bc / 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12 / Luke 21:5-19



“By your perseverance you will secure your lives.” Luke 21:19



Perseverance that Saves

As the liturgical year comes to a close, we are reminded of the justice of God in judging between the just and the proud, good and evil. The readings of today, the thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time, invites us to persevere in the face of difficulties and trials, knowing that “the sun of justice will arise with its healing rays” (Malachi 3:20a) and by this perseverance, we will save our lives (cf. Luke 21:19).

In the First Reading, the Prophet picks up the element of Psalm 1, distinguishing between the wicked and the just. In fact, what we read today appears to be the conclusive judgment of what the Prophet discusses in the whole of chapter 3. It would seem that the key idea of Malachi is to highlight the plea for justice following the question of the God of justice (Malachi 2:17). It is only after the just begin to despair and think that “every evildoer is good in the sight of the Lord”, does the Lord send his messenger (Mal’akhi). The central message of this messenger is to bring hope to the just, inviting them to persist in righteousness, for when the Lord draws near in judgment, he will have compassion on them. For the



wicked, who says “it is vain to serve the Lord” (Malachi 3:14), the judgment of the Lord is definitive and they will be destroyed from their very foundations “leaving them neither root nor branches” (Malachi 3:19). The perseverance of the just, however, brings them healing from the rays of the sun of justice.

Similarly, Jesus encourages his disciples to hold on to their faith. It is difficult to persevere if one has no courage to proclaim even what he/she believes.

We are called to persevere in our faith in Christ Jesus. In our world today plagued by challenges that make it seem like there is no justice, Jesus and the messenger of God exhort us to be steadfast in the faith, knowing that perseverance will raise up for us the sun of justice with its healing rays.

Rev. Fr. Derrick Hammond, Accra-Ghana



Sunday November 13

Entrance Antiphon (*Jeremiah 29:11.12.14*)

The Lord said; I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

Collect

Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God, the constant gladness of being devoted to you, for it is full and lasting happiness to serve with constancy the author of all that is good. Through Christ our Lord... **Amen.**

First Reading (*Malachi 4:1-2a*)

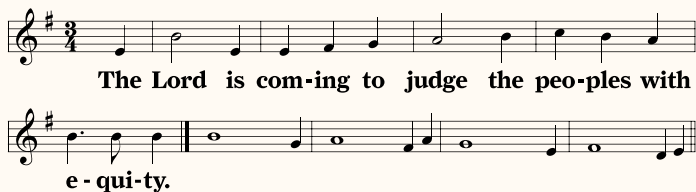
A reading from the Book of the Prophet Malachi

Behold, the day comes, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 97) 98:5-6.7-9ab.9bc)



R. The Lord comes to judge the people with fairness.

Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp,
with the harp and the sound of song.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn,
Raise a shout before the King, the Lord. R.

Let the sea and all within it thunder;
the world, and those who dwell in it.
Let the rivers clap their hands,
and the hills ring out their joy
at the presence of the Lord, for he comes,
he comes to judge the earth. R.

He will judge the world with justice,
and the people with fairness. R.



Sunday November 13

Second Reading (2 Thessalonians 3:7-12)—————

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians

Brethren: You know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, we did not eat anyone's bread without paying, but with toil and labour we worked night and day, that we might not burden any of you. It was not because we have not that right, but to give you in our conduct an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: If anyone will not work, let him not eat. For we hear that some of you are walking in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work.

Now, such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work in quietness and to earn their own living.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation (Luke 21:28)

Alleluia. Alleluia. Look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near. **Alleluia.**



Gospel (Luke 21:5-19)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

At that time: As some spoke of the temple, how it was adorned with noble stones and offerings, Jesus said, “As for these things which you see, the days will come when there shall not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down.” And they asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign when this is about to take place?” And he said, “Take heed that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is at hand!’ Do not go after them. And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified; for this must first take place, but the end will not be at once.” Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences; and there will be terrors and great signs from heaven. But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name’s sake. This will be a time for you to bear testimony. Settle it therefore in your minds, not to meditate beforehand how to answer; for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your



Sunday November 13

adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and kinsmen and friends, and some of you they will put to death; you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance, you will gain your lives."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Prayer of the Faithful

The following intentions are suggestions only.

R. Lord, listen to our prayer!

For religious, political and traditional leaders in Africa and in other parts of the world, let us pray to the Lord our God. **R.**

For a closer relationship, perseverance and personal experience with Christ, let us pray to the Lord our God. **R.**



For those who still do not believe in Christ, for our salvation and the salvation of the world, let us pray to the Lord our God. R.

For peace, forgiveness, reconciliation, security, unity and the end of coronavirus pandemic in the world, especially in Africa, let us pray to the Lord our God. R.

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant, O Lord, we pray, that what we offer in the sight of your majesty may obtain for us the grace of being devoted to you and gain us the prize of everlasting happiness. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon (*Psalm 72*) 73:28)

To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

Or

(*Mark 11:23-24*)

Amen, I say to you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you will receive, and it shall be given to you, says the Lord.



Sunday November 13

Prayer after Communion

We have partaken of the gifts of this sacred mystery, humbly imploring, O Lord, that what your Son commanded us to do in memory of him may bring us growth in charity. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



Monday November 14

33rd Week in Ordinary Time

Entrance Antiphon

(Jeremiah 29:11.12.14)

The Lord said; I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

Collect

Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God, the constant gladness of being devoted to you, for it is full and lasting happiness to serve with constancy the author of all that is good. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading

(Revelation 1:1-4; 2:1-5a)

The beginning of the Book of Revelation

The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place; and he made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, who bore witness to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw. Blessed is he who reads aloud the words of the prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written

therein; for the time is near. John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, [I heard the Lord saying to me:] “To the angel of the Church in Ephesus write: ‘The words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lamp stands. “I know your works, your toil, and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear evil men; but have tested those who call themselves apostles but are not, found them to be false; I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name’s sake, and

you are not grown weary. But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. Remember then from what you have fallen, repent and do the works you did at first.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Responsorial Psalm —
(Psalm 1:1-2,3,4 and 6)***

***R. To him who conquers, I
will grant to eat of the tree
of life.***

Blessed indeed is the man who follows not the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the path with sinners, nor abides in the company of scorners, but whose delight is the law of

the Lord, and who ponders his law day and night. R

He is like a tree that is planted beside the flowing waters, that yields its fruit in due season, and whose leaves shall never fade; and all that he does shall prosper. R

Not so are the wicked, not so! For they, like winnowed chaff, shall be driven away by the wind. For the Lord knows the way of the just, but the way of the wicked will perish. R

Acclamation

(John 8:12)

Alleluia. Alleluia. I am the light of the world, says the Lord, he who follows me will have the light of the life. **Alleluia.**

Gospel ————— *(Luke 18:35-43)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

It happened that, as Jesus drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging, and hearing a multitude going by, he inquired what this meant. They told him, “Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.” And he cried, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” And Jesus stopped, and commanded him to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked

him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me receive my sight." And Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant, O Lord, we pray, that what we offer in the sight

of your majesty may obtain for us the grace of being devoted to you and gain us the prize of everlasting happiness. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon

(Psalm (72) 73:28) **To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.**

Prayer after Communion

We have partaken of the gifts of this sacred mystery, humbly imploring, O Lord, that what your Son commanded us to do

in memory of him may bring us growth in charity. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Commentary

At the Side of the Road

Luke 18:35-43

Many people feel left on the side of the road of life. Like the blind man, many of them are there not through any fault of theirs, but through life situations. Like Jesus, we need to stop whatever we are doing so that we can hear their cry for help. Sometimes, we too find ourselves at the side of the road. The words of the blind man are a beautiful prayer that can indeed change the course of our lives: "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

Rev. Fr. Derrick Hammond, Accra-Ghana



Tuesday November 15

33rd Week in Ordinary Time

Ferial

or Saint Albert The Great, Bishop And Doctor

Entrance Antiphon

(Jeremiah 29 :11.12.14) **The Lord said; I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.**

Collect

Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God, the constant gladness of being devoted to you, for it is full and lasting happiness to serve with constancy the author of all that is good. Through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading

(Revelation 3:1-6.14-22)

A reading from the Book of Revelation

I, John, heard the Lord saying to me : “To the angel of the Church in Sardis write : ‘The words of him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. “I know your works; you have the name of being alive, and you are dead. Awake, and strengthen what remains and is on the point of

death, for I have not found your works perfect in the sight of my God. Remember then what you received and heard ; keep that, and repent. If you will not awake, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come upon you. Yet you have still a few names in Sardis, people who have not soiled their garments ; and they shall walk with me in white, for they are worthy. He who conquers shall be clothed like them in white garments, and I will not blot his name out of the book of life ; I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.’ “And to the angel of the

Church in Laodicea write : ‘The words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of God’s creation. “I know your works : you are neither cold nor hot. Would that you were cold or hot ! So, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew you out of my mouth. For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing ; not knowing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind and naked. Therefore I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, that you may be rich, and white garments to clothe you and to keep the shame of nakedness from being seen, and salve to anoint your eyes, that you may

see. Those whom I love, I reprove and chasten ; so be zealous and repent. Behold, I stand at the door and knock ; if any one hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me. He who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne, as I myself conquered and sat with my Father on his throne. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Responsorial Psalm —
(Psalm ⁽¹⁴⁾ 15:2-3a.3bc-4ab.5)***

**R. He who conquers, I will
grant him to sit with me
on my throne.**

Whoever walks without fault, who does what is just, and speaks the truth from his heart. Who does not slander with his tongue. R.

Who does no wrong to a neighbour, who casts no slur on a friend, who looks with scorn on the wicked, But honours those who fear the Lord. R.

Who lends no money at interest, and accepts no bribes against the innocent. Such a one shall never be shaken. R.

Acclamation (*1 John 4:10b*)
Alleluia. Alleluia. God loved us and sent his Son to be the expiation for our sins. **Alleluia.**

Gospel —————
(Luke 19:1-10)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

At that time: Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. And there was a man named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector, and rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not, on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature. So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was to pass that way. And when

Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, make haste and come down; for I must stay at your house today.” So he made haste and came down, and received him joyfully. And when they saw it, they all murmured, “He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner.” And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, “Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything I restore it fourfold.” And Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant, O Lord, that what we offer in the sight of your majesty may obtain for us the grace of being devoted to you and gain us the prize of the everlasting happiness. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon

(Psalm (72) 73 :28) **To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.**

Or *(Mark 11 :23-24)*

Amen, I say to you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you will receive, and it shall be given to you, says the Lord.

Prayer after Communion

We have partaken of the gifts of this sacred mystery,

humbly imploring, O Lord, that what your Son commanded us to do in memory of him may

bring us growth in charity. Through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Come down in Haste

Commentary

Luke 19:1-10

Sometimes in life, we find ourselves in the shoes of Zacchaeus probably for some action or deed of ours. There is a tendency to think that even Jesus dislikes us as others do. Jesus loves us irrespective of what others may think or say about us. He tells us, “Come down in haste” from the tree of your seclusion. Jesus is always at the foot of the tree, waiting for us to come like Zacchaeus who risked ridicule to see Him. When it is Jesus, we should not allow any personal feelings or community hate to discourage us. Let us move out and find a way to see Jesus at all costs.

Rev. Fr. Derrick Hammond, Accra-Ghana



Wednesday November 16

33rd Week in Ordinary Time

Ferial

or Saint Margaret of Scotland

or Saint Gertrude, Virgin

Entrance Antiphon

(Jeremiah 29 :11.12.14) **The Lord said, I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.**

of all that is good. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading ————— ***(Revelation 4:1-11)***

A reading from the Book of Revelation

Collect

Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God, the constant gladness of being devoted to you, for it is full and lasting happiness to serve with constancy the author

I, John, looked, and behold, in heaven an open door ! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, “Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.” At once I was in the

spirit, and behold, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne ! And he who sat there appeared like jasper and carnelian, and round the throne was a rainbow that looked like an emerald. Round the throne were twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones were twenty-four elders, clothed in white garments, with golden crowns upon their heads. From the throne issue flashes of lightning, and voices and peals of thunder, and before the throne burn seven torches of fire, which are the seven spirits of God ; and before the throne there is as it were a sea of glass, like crystal. And round the throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind :

the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with the face of a man, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle. And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all round and within, and day and night they never cease to sing, “Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is and is to come !” And whenever the living creatures give glory and honour and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives for ever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives for ever and ever ; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing : “Worthy

are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power, for you created all things, and by your will, they existed and were created.”

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Responsorial Psalm —
(Psalm 150:1b-2.3-4.5-6)***

**R. Holy, holy, holy is the
Lord God Almighty.**

or: Alleluia.

Praise God in his holy place ; praise him in his mighty firmament. Praise him for his powerful deeds; praise him for his boundless grandeur. R.

Praise him with sound of trumpet ; praise him

with lute and harp. Praise him with timbrel and dance ; Praise him with strings and pipes. R.

O praise him with resounding cymbals ; Praise him with clashing of cymbals. Let everything that breathe praise the Lord ! R.

Acclamation (John 15:16)

Alleluia. Alleluia. I chose you from the world that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should abide, says the Lord. **Alleluia.**

***Gospel —
(Luke 19:11-28)***

**A reading from the holy
Gospel according to Luke**

At that time: Jesus proceeded to tell a parable, because he

was near to Jerusalem, and because they supposed that the kingdom of God was to appear immediately. He said therefore, “A nobleman went into a far country to receive kingly power and then return. Calling ten of his servants, he gave them ten pounds, and said to them, ‘Trade with these till I come.’” “But his citizens hated him and sent an embassy after him, saying ‘We do not want this man to reign over us.’” “When he returned, having received the kingly power, he commanded these servants, to whom he had given the money, to be called to him, that he might know what they had gained by trading. The first came before him, saying, ‘Lord, your pound has made ten

pounds more.’ “And he said to him, ‘Well done, good servant ! Because you have been faithful in a very little, you shall have authority over ten cities.’ “And the second came, saying ‘Lord, your pound has made five pounds.’ “And he said to him, ‘And you have to be over five cities.’ “Then another came, saying, ‘Lord, here is your pound, which I kept laid away in a napkin; for I was afraid of you, because you are a severe man; you take up what you did not lay down, and reap what you did not sow.’ “He said to him, ‘I will condemn you out of your own mouth, you wicked servant ! You knew that I was a severe man, taking up what I did not lay down and reaping

what I did not sow? Why then did you not put my money in the bank, and at my coming I should have collected it with interest ?” “And he said to those who stood by, ‘Take the pound from him, and give it to him who has the ten pounds.’ “ (And they said to him, ‘Lord, he has ten pounds !’) “I tell you, that to everyone who has will more be given ; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. But as for these enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, bring them here and slay them before me.” And when Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant, O Lord, we pray, that what we offer in the sight of your majesty may obtain for us the grace of being devoted to you and gain us the prize of everlasting happiness. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon

(Psalm (72) 73 :28) **To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.**



Prayer after Communion

We have partaken of the gifts of this sacred mystery, humbly imploring, O Lord, that what your Son

commanded us to do in memory of him may bring us growth in charity. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Cowards Do not Build Kingdoms

Commentary

Luke 19:11-28

Jesus told a parable which reminds us that there is no excuse for inaction. Just as any kingdom is built by the sweat of courageous men, the kingdom of God is built by hard work. When Jesus told his disciples to go out and preach the gospel, he told them of the persecutions they would face yet persevered. Sometimes, our problems and failures in life are not necessarily a result of the loss of what we have but a lack of effort to use it and grow it.

Rev. Fr. Derrick Hammond, Accra-Ghana



Thursday November 17

33rd Week in Ordinary Time

Memorial

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, religious

Entrance Antiphon

(Cf. *Matthew* 25:34-36.40)

Come, you blessed of my Father, says the Lord: I was sick, and you visited me. Amen, I say to you: whatever you did for one of these, the least of my brethren, you did it for me

Collect

O God, by whose gift Saint Elizabeth of Hungary recognised and revered Christ in the poor, grant, through her intercession, that we may serve with unfailing charity the

needy and those afflicted. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Reading ————— (*Revelation* 5:1-10)

A reading from the Book of Revelation

I, John, saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals; and I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?" And no



one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, and I wept much that no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. Then one of the elders said to me, “Weep not; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.” And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders, I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth; and he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on

the throne. And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and with golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints; and they sang a new song, saying: “Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain and by your blood you ransomed men for God from every tribe and tongue and people and nation, and have made them a kingdom and priest to our God, and they shall reign on earth.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***Responsorial Psalm —
(Psalm 149:1b-2.3-4.5-6a
and 9bc)***

R. You have made us a
kingdom and priests to our
God.

or: Alleluia.

Sing a new song to the
Lord, his praise in the
assembly of the faithful. Let
Israel rejoice in its Maker; let
Sion's children exult in their
king. **R.**

Let them praise his name
with dancing, and make
music with timbrel and harp.
For the Lord takes delight in
his people; he crowns the
poor with salvation. **R.**

Let the faithful exult in
glory, and rejoice as they
take their rest. Let the praise
of God be in their mouths.

This is an honour for all his
faithful. **R.**

***Acclamation (Psalm 94)
95:7d.8a)***

Alleluia. Alleluia. Today,
harden not your hearts, but
listen to the voice of the
Lord. **Alleluia.**

***Gospel —————
(Luke 19:41-44)***

**A reading from the holy
Gospel according to Luke**

At that time: When Jesus
drew near and saw the city
he wept over it, saying,
“Would that even today you
knew the things that make
for peace! But now they are
hidden from your eyes. For
the days shall come upon
you, when your enemies
will cast up a bank about



you and surround you, and hem you in on every side, and dash you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave one stone upon another in you; because you did not know the time of your visitation.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer over the Offerings

Receive, O Lord, the offerings of your people, and grant that we, who celebrate your Son's work

of boundless charity, may, by the example of blessed Elizabeth of Hungary, be confirmed in love of you and of our neighbour. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon

(John 15:13) **Greater love has no one, says the Lord, than to lay down his life for his friends.**

Prayer after Communion

Grant, we pray, O Lord, that we who are renewed by these sacred mysteries, may follow the example

of blessed Elizabeth of Hungary, who honoured you with tireless devotion and, by surpassing charity,

was of service to your people. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Sons and Daughters of God

Commentary

Luke 19:41-44

The blood of Jesus makes us a kingdom and priests to our God. We are set apart by this precious blood for the sake of the kingdom of God. It is a truth that as Christians we must hold dear. It gives us cause to celebrate with the psalmist and rejoice in our Maker. The reality of this ransom allows us to walk in the authority of sons and daughters of God. Jesus points out that the Israelites did not know the things that make for peace. Ignorance of one's place in the kingdom allows us to be buffeted by enemies.

Rev. Fr. Derrick Hammond, Accra-Ghana.



Friday November 18

33rd Week in Ordinary Time

Ferial

or the Dedication of the Basilicas of Saints Peter and Paul, apostles

Entrance Antiphon

(Jeremiah 29:11.12.14)

The Lord said; I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

Collect

Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God, the constant gladness of being devoted to you, for it is full and lasting happiness to serve with constancy the author

of all that is good. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading ————— ***(Revelation 10:8-11)***

A reading from the Book of Revelation

The voice which I, John, had heard from heaven spoke to me again, saying, “Go, take the scroll which is open in the hand of the angel who is standing on the sea and on the land.” So I went to the angel and told him to

give me the little scroll; and he said to me, "Take it and eat; it will be bitter to your stomach, but sweet as honey in your mouth." And I took the little scroll from the hand of the angel and ate it; it was sweet as honey in my mouth, but when I had eaten it my stomach was made bitter. And I was told, "You must again prophesy about many peoples and nations and tongues and kings."

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Responsorial Psalm —
(Psalm ⁽¹¹⁸⁾ 119:14.24.72.
103. 111.131)***

**R. How sweet is your
promise to my tongue, O
Lord !**

I rejoice in the way of
your precepts, as though
all riches were mine. R.

See, your decrees are my
delight; your statutes are
my counsellors. R.

The law from your
mouth means more to me
than large quantities of
silver and gold. R.

How sweet is your
promise to my tongue,
more than honey in the
mouth. R.

Your decrees are my
heritage forever, the joy of
my heart. R.



I have opened my mouth
and I sigh, for I yearn for
your commands. *R*

Acclamation (*John 10:27*)

Alleluia. Alleluia. My sheep
hear my voice, says the Lord;
and I know them, and they
follow me. **Alleluia.**

Gospel ————— (*Luke 19:45-48*)

**A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Luke**

At that time : Jesus entered
the temple and began to
drive out those who sold,
saying to them, “It is written,
‘My house shall be a house
of prayer’; but you have
made it a den of robbers.”
And he was teaching daily
in the temple. The chief
priests and the scribes, and

the principal men of the
people sought to destroy
him; but they did not find
anything they could do, for
all the people hung upon
his words.

The Gospel of the Lord.
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus
Christ.**

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant, O Lord, we pray, that
what we offer in the sight
of your majesty may obtain
for us the grace of being
devoted to you and gain
us the prize of everlasting
happiness. Through Christ
our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon

(*Psalms (72) 73:28*) **To be
near God is my happiness,
to place my hope in God
the Lord.**

Prayer after Communion

We have partaken of the gifts of this sacred mystery, humbly imploring, O Lord, that what your Son

commanded us to do in memory of him may bring us growth in charity. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Guard against Indifference**Commentary**

Revelation 10:8-11
Luke 19:45-48

Secularism can be described as indifference to religion and religious considerations. Our world today is rife with ideas that can easily draw us to indifference when it comes to our faith and belief in God. Jesus reminds us to keep high regard for things of the Sacred. The popular adage says, familiarity breeds contempt. Familiarity can also breed indifference. Our hope and prayer should be to never allow familiarity to make us lose regard for the sacred but rather inspire greater awe and devotion.

Rev. Fr. Derrick Hammond, Accra-Ghana.



Saturday November 19

33rd Week in Ordinary Time

Entrance Antiphon

(Jeremiah 29 :11.12.14) **The Lord said, I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.**

Collect

Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God, the constant gladness of being devoted to you, for it is full and lasting happiness to serve with constancy the author of all that is good. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading ————— *(Revelation 11:4-12)*

A reading from the Book of Revelation

I, John, was told: “[Behold, my two witnesses]” these are the two olive trees and the two lamp stands which stand before the Lord of the earth. And if anyone would harm them, fire pours from their mouth and consumes their foes; if anyone would harm them, thus he is doomed to be killed. They have power to shut the sky, so that no rain may fall during the days of their prophesying, and they have power over the waters

to turn them into blood, and to afflict the earth with every plague, as often as they desire. And when they have finished their testimony, the beast that ascends from the bottomless pit will make war upon them and conquer them and kill them, and their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city, which is allegorically called Sodom and Egypt, where their Lord was crucified. For three days and a half men from the peoples and the tribes and tongues and nations gaze at their dead bodies and refuse to let them be placed in a tomb, and those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them and make merry and exchange presents, because these two prophets had been a torment to those

who dwell on the earth. But after the three and a half days a breath of life from God entered them, and they stood up on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them. Then they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here!" And in the sight of their foes they went up to heaven in a cloud.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Responsorial Psalm —
(Psalm ⁽¹⁴³⁾ 144:1.2.9-10)***

***R.* Blest be the Lord, my rock.**

Blessed be the Lord, my rock, who trains my hands for battle, who prepares my fingers for war. *R.*



He is my merciful love and my fortress ; he is my stronghold, my saviour, my shield in whom I take refuge, He brings people under my rule. R.

To you, O God, will I sing a new song ; I will play on the ten-stringed harp to you who give kings their victory, who set David your servant free from the evil sword. R.

Acclamation

(2 Timothy 1:10)

Alleluia. Alleluia. Our Saviour Jesus Christ abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel. **Alleluia.**

Gospel

(Luke 20:27-40)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

At that time : There came to Jesus some Sadducees, those who say that there is no resurrection, and they asked him a question, saying, “Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies, having a wife but no children, the man must take the wife and raise up children for his brother. Now there were seven brothers; the first took a wife, and died without children; and the second and the third took her, and likewise all seven left no children and died. Afterward, the woman also died. In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be ? For the seven had her as wife.” And Jesus said to them, “The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage ; but those

who are accounted worthy to attain to that age and to the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage, for they cannot die anymore, because they are equal to angels and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection. But that the dead are raised, even Moses showed, in the passage about the bush, where he calls the Lord the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. Now he is not God of the dead, but of the living; for all live to him." And some of the scribes answered, "Teacher, you have spoken well." For they no longer dared to ask him any question.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant, O Lord, we pray, that what we offer in the sight of your majesty may obtain for us the grace of being devoted to you and gain us the prize of everlasting happiness. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon

(Psalm (72) 73:28) **To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.**

Or:

(Mark 11:23-24)

Amen, I say to you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you will receive, and it shall be given to you, says the Lord.

**Prayer after Communion**

We have partaken of the gifts of this sacred mystery, humbly imploring, O Lord, that what your Son

commanded us to do in memory of him may bring us growth in charity. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Good always Triumphs**Commentary**

Revelation 11:4-12
Luke. 20:27-40

“He prepares a table for me in the sight of my foes” (Ps. 23:5a). Both readings show the extent of antagonism that exists in the human sphere of life. Jesus, like the prophets of old, faced strong opposition and strong opponents. Good always triumphs over evil. No matter the extent to which our opponents go or evil seems to flourish, we must hope for the good triumphing in the end. The Lord assures us of His presence and strength in the sight of our foe. Let us also be careful not to be the foe in another’s life.

Rev. Fr. Derrick Hammond, Accra-Ghana



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